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INFORMATION FROM FOREIGN DOCUMENTS OR RADIO BROADCASTS REPORT

COUNTRY

China

SUBJECT

1146 1957

Economic - Agriculture, rice

DATE OF

CD NO.

INFORMATION 1953

HOW

PUBLISHED

Daily newspaper

DATE DIST. /O Dec 1953

WHERE

PUBLISHED

Tientsin

NO. OF PAGES 2

DATE

PUBLISHED

20, 22 Jul 1953

SUPPLEMENT TO

LANGUAGE Chinese

REPORT NO.

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SOURCE

Ta Kung Pao

GOOD CROPS OF EARLY RICE REACH MARKET IN CHINA

Summary: Reports show that in Central-South China the early rice crop is 80 percent of a full crop. Price reductions of manufactured articles add to the buying power of the farmer. The improvement in rice production is said to be due to the energy and wisdom of the farmers. 7

MANY PROVINCES MARKET GOOD RICE CROPS -- Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 22 Jul 53

Peiping, 20 July (Hsin-hua) -- Early rice is being brought to the markets in Hunan, Hupeh, Kwantung, Kwangsi, Fukien, and Chekiang provinces. It is estimated that this year the early rice in Central-South China is 80 percent of a full crop.

Hupeh Province has a good rice crop. Early reports from sample sections show that the highest yield reached is 550 cattles per mou while the average yield is 368 catties per mou.

In Hunan Province the early rice is 10 percent better than last year.

Kwantung Province has a good rice crop. In Chich-yang Hsien the early rice is 15 percent better than last year.

In Kwangsi Province, in places like Yung-ning and Heng Hsien, early rice shows a 10 percent increase.

In East China, Fukien Province also has a good rice crop.

Farmers also have the advantage of better prices. The state-operated commercial organs have adjusted the parity rate between agricultural products and all kinds of manufactured articles. According to investigations in Shih-ma,

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an important rice-producing area in southern Fukien Province, 100 catties of rice can be exchanged for 0.216 of a bolt of the Dragon-head brand of fine cotton cloth. This is an increase of 8.54 percent over last year. In the case of fertilizer, 100 catties of early rice can be exchanged for 33½ catties of fertilizer, which is 18.37 percent better than last year. Since the prices of manufactured articles have been lowered, the actual price of grain this year in Fukien Province is 9.45 percent higher than last year. This adjustment has stimulated the farmers to increase their production and to sell larger quantities of grain.

GOOD EARLY RICE CROP SOUTH OF THE YANGTZE RIVER -- Tientsin, Ta Kung Pao, 20 Jul 53

In the hsiens along the Chin-sha Chiang and the Hung Ho in Yunnan Province, the early rice is 20-30 percent better than last year.

Important rice-producing centers like Chin-hua, Wen-chou, and T'ai-chou in Chekiang Province report increases of better than 10 percent in the production of early rice. In the whole province the average production increase is from 8-10 percent. The good harvest is the result of the vigorous activity of the farmers in combating drought, flood, and insects and their improved farming techniques such as close planting.

In Kiangsi Province, along the P'o-yang Hu and in Hunan along the Tungt'ing Hu, and all over Kwangsi Province the farmers have repaired irrigation facilities and have considerably increased the acreage planted to rice grown in upland fields.

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